

A Reading Hack Volunteer carries out any or all of the activities below, according to the volunteer's interests and skills as well as the needs of the library. These activities apply to Summer Reading Challenge, Duke of Edinburgh and Arts Award Volunteers.

| What area are you interested in? | What activities can you help staff with? | What characteristics would you need to have? |
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| Pre- school children | <p>Story time sessions – read stories out aloud, encourage children to interact with the story, involve them in choosing stories and related craft tasks.</p> <p>Rhyme time sessions – hand out rhyme sheets, sing rhymes with associated actions, encourage involvement.</p> <p>Craft activity sessions – help children to create crafts</p> | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to be able to engage with and enthuse children and to show patience and tolerance when helping them. |
| Children; mainly of school age | <p>Help children to create crafts or support them in discussing books.</p> <p>Help with preparing displays and setting up for the activity and with clearing up afterwards.</p> | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to be able to engage with and enthuse children and to show patience and tolerance when helping them. |
| Craft work and displays | <p>Prepare craftwork for library craft activities and decorations.</p> <p>Help to make library displays.</p> | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to have some practical ability and be able to follow instructions for making craftwork. |
| Shelving and support | Shelve books , basic processing of books, tidy shelves, compile leaflet packs , help with displays and photocopying . | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to be able to follow simple instructions about processes and to shelve accurately according to the library shelf sequences. |
| Promote activities for other teens | Help to plan and run reading and other activity sessions. Write reviews of the activities. Helping to promote volunteering to other teens. | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to be able to communicate well with others. |
| Summer Reading Challenge | Activities can include any of the above but also includes promoting the Summer Reading Challenge in the library and helping participants sign up . | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to be able to engage with and enthuse children and to show patience and tolerance when helping them. |
| Create your own! | Do you / group of volunteers have an idea for a project , session or just a great idea? This could be in coding, theatre, photography, film making etc. Speak to us and we may be able to support you. | A Reading Hack Volunteer needs to be able to present their idea clearly and have the commitment to seeing it through. |

All Reading Hack Volunteers need to understand how to treat all people with equal respect and fairness.

Interested in applying? Please turn over to find out how to apply and much more!

Is this role right for you? Your application form and interview will help us decide whether this volunteer role is suitable for you.

How to apply

- Please collect an application form from your local library, complete this and return it for the attention of the Library Manger.

What happens next?

- Either the Library Manager or the Volunteer Development Officer will be in touch with you.
- You will be invited for an informal interview which will help you and we decide whether the volunteer role you are interested in is suitable for you and the library you have applied to.
- If you are 13 – 17 years old and you are offered the volunteering placement, your consenting parent / guardian will be contacted to gain your emergency information which will help us to keep you safe.

Time commitment required of a Reading Hack Volunteer

- The time a volunteer can commit to the volunteering placement will depend on the volunteer as the individual and the area they are interested in volunteering in; therefore this will be discussed with you at the interview stage.

What can you benefit from becoming a Reading Hack Volunteer?

- Reading Hack gives you skills and experience and is a great way to meet new people and get creative.
- Win some awesome prizes, get involved with competitions and compete in the leaders board with young people all over the country!

Contact us

- If you have any questions you would like to ask us before applying, please contact your local Library Manager

Mission Statement

Central Bedfordshire Libraries and Theatre value the time and energy offered by our volunteers. We are dedicated to ensuring that volunteers are not performing the work of paid staff members. We welcome ideas from young people that can enhance local communities and inspire others to get involved.